



U.S. Army Materiel Command Band History

The Army Materiel Command Band was constituted January, 15 1944 as the 389th Army Band and was activated the following week at Fort Monmouth, N.J.

The band has direct ties to the U.S. Army Signal Corps Band and the 13th Cavalry Regimental Band, though it does not carry their lineage and honors. The 13th Cavalry Regimental Band was organized at Fort Meade, South Dakota May 24, 1901.

In 1916, while on international border patrol, the 13th Cavalry Regimental Band saw action against Francisco “Poncho” Villa’s guerrillas in Columbus, New Mexico. Although the band sustained nine casualties, Poncho Villa’s casualties numbered 192.

The 13th Cavalry Regimental Band served at various posts and camps world wide before arriving at Fort Monmouth in August 1930.

In late August 1930, the 13th Cavalry Regimental Band was formally inactivated and retired. In the same month the U.S Army Signal Corps Band was activated and received personnel and equipment from the 13th Cavalry Regimental Band.

In January 1944, the Signal Corps Band was inactivated and the 389th Army Band was formed and activated. It likewise inherited personnel and equipment from the Signal Corps Band.

During World War II, the 389th Army Band was the motivating factor in a campaign that sold more than \$1 million in war bonds for the war effort, earning the band the Meritorious Unit Commendation, 1944-1945.

In its fiftieth year of existence the AMC Band relocated to Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland. In August 2005, the band earned the Army Superior Unit Award for exceptional service in support of the Global War on Terrorism.

On August 16, 2006 Chief, Force Structure and Unit History Branch conferred upon the 389th Army Band the distinctive designation of U.S. Army Materiel Command Band. This designation directly associates the band with AMC military and civilian personnel stationed worldwide.

On June 12, 2007 Chief, Military Awards Branch announced the award of Campaign Participation Credit for the band for participation in Operation Iraqi Freedom from 1 November 2003 to 2 February 2004.

The AMC Band supports the AMC Headquarters, fifteen AMC Major Subordinate Commands, AMC installations worldwide, Aberdeen Proving Ground garrison and 20 tenant organizations on Aberdeen Proving Ground, including the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and School.